

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An electronic component mounting method of supplying electronic components from both of a pair of component supply devices which are arranged with a board transfer device therebetween and of mounting said components on circuit boards transferred by said board transfer device, said method comprising the steps of:

designating one of said component supply devices as main component supply device for primarily supplying said components and the other component supply device as secondary component supply device for supplying said components while the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued;

supplying said components from said main component supply device during an ordinary mounting operation; and

when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued, performing a switching control so that said components are supplied from said secondary component supply device.

2. An electronic component mounting apparatus wherein a board transfer device is provided for transferring circuit boards and wherein a pair of component supply devices are arranged with said board transfer device therebetween for supplying electronic components to be mounted on said boards, said apparatus comprising:

designation means for designating one of said component supply devices as main component supply device for primarily supplying said components and the other component supply device as secondary component supply device for supplying said components while the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued; and

switching control means for performing a switching control so that said components are supplied from said main component supply device during an

ordinary mounting operation, but from said secondary component supply device when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.

3. An electronic component mounting apparatus wherein a board transfer device is provided for transferring circuit boards along a pair of board guide rails on of which serves as reference guide rail and wherein a pair of component supply devices are arranged with said board transfer device therebetween for supplying electronic components to be mounted on said boards, said apparatus comprising:

designation means for designating one of said component supply devices arranged close to said reference guide rail as main component supply device for primarily supplying said components and the other component supply device as secondary component supply device for supplying said components while the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued; and

switching control means for performing a switching control so that said components are supplied from said main component supply device during an ordinary mounting operation, but from said secondary component supply device when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.

4. An electronic component mounting apparatus wherein a board transfer device is provided for transferring circuit boards and wherein a pair of component supply devices are arranged with said board transfer device therebetween for supplying electronic components to be mounted on said boards, said apparatus comprising:

a component rack for storing said components to be replenished to said component supply devices;

designation means for designating one of said component supply devices arranged close to said component rack as main component supply device for primarily supplying said components and the other component supply device as secondary component supply device for supplying said components while the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued; and

switching control means for performing a switching control so that said components are supplied from said main component supply device during an ordinary mounting operation, but from said secondary component supply device when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.

5. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said main component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on first boards and wherein said secondary component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on said first boards and which are the same as those set in said main component supply device, said apparatus further comprising:

mounting means for mounting said components on said first boards by supplying said components from said main component supply device during said ordinary mounting operation, but from said secondary component supply device when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.

6. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said main component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on first boards and wherein said secondary component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on second boards different from said first boards, said apparatus further comprising:

mounting means for mounting said components on said first boards from said main component supply device during said ordinary mounting operation, but mounting said components on said second boards from said secondary component supply device when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.

7. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said main component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on first boards and wherein said secondary component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on second boards

different from said first boards, said apparatus further comprising:

mounting means for terminating the production of said first boards when it is confirmed by reference to a production schedule that the production of said first boards to a scheduled number has been completed, and instead, for initiating the production of said second boards.

8. The apparatus as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said main component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on first boards and which are used in higher frequencies and wherein said secondary component supply device has set therein electronic components which are necessary to be mounted on said first boards and which are used in lower frequencies differently from those set in said main component supply device.

9. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising:

moving means for moving said board transfer device close to said secondary component supply device in supplying said components from said secondary component supply device after the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.

10. An electronic component mounting program for transferring circuit boards along a pair of board guide rails of a board transfer device and for supplying electronic components from a pair of component supply devices, arranged with said board transfer device therebetween, thereby to mount said components on said boards, said program comprising the steps of:

designating one of said component supply devices arranged close to a reference guide rail of said pair of board guide rails as main component supply device for primarily supplying said components and the other component supply device as secondary component supply device for supplying said components while the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued; and

performing a switching control so that said components are supplied from said main component supply device during an ordinary mounting operation, but from

said secondary component supply device when the component supply from said main component supply device is discontinued.